

HOUSE RESOLUTION 186

By Gilmore

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize the staff and administrators of the Veterans Administration Tennessee Valley Healthcare System Women Veterans Healthcare Center on the occasion of that facility's opening.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly pause in their deliberations to specially recognize the staff and administrators of those healthcare institutions dedicated to improving the lives of Tennesseans by providing the highest quality of care with the utmost compassion and professionalism; and

WHEREAS, one such institution is the new Veterans Administration Tennessee Valley Healthcare System (VA TVHS) Women Veterans Healthcare Clinic, which opened May 13, 2009, in a facility on Charlotte Avenue in Nashville; and

WHEREAS, it is the first veteran's health clinic in Tennessee devoted solely to caring for women, and it will serve patients from the Middle Tennessee area, including Clarksville, and some parts of Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, according to Maryanne Woodward-Smith, who directs women's care for VA TVHS, a variety of services will now be available in one facility for the first time, and the staff will be all-female so that women who utilize those services will feel comfortable as they receive care; and

WHEREAS, VA TVHS and Meharry Medical College are partnering to provide the services, which will include outpatient as well as inpatient care for both chronic and acute conditions, preventive care, maternity care, a range of mental health and substance abuse services, and much more; and

WHEREAS, in addition, the clinic will offer plentiful parking, on-site security, a comfortable waiting area, and a shuttle service available to transport patients between the clinic and the nearby Nashville VA Medical Center when necessary; and

WHEREAS, not long ago, there were so few women veterans served by the VA that providers were simply not used to handling women's health issues, but in the current fiscal year alone, VA TVHS has served nearly eight thousand women veterans; and

WHEREAS, this nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our individual and collective freedom, and countless numbers of men and women have continued this tradition of selfless service with their membership in the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, it is only just and right that these valiant men and women, upon completing their obligations to the military, receive the very best medical care this country can offer them; the new VA TVHS Women Veterans Healthcare Center constitutes a major step toward fulfilling this nation's obligation to its service people and their families; and

WHEREAS, the healthcare providers who work at the center, along with the administrators of the VA TVHS, should be duly recognized for this contribution to the health and well-being of area veterans; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and recognize the staff and administrators of the Veterans Administration Tennessee Valley Healthcare System Women Veterans Healthcare Center on the occasion of that facility's opening, thank them for their commitment to the health and well-being of our nation's veterans, and wish all of them the very best in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.